



A Proclamation of Prayer and Fasting

Whereas the United States Army routinely calls upon its chaplains on numerous and varied occasions to pray on behalf of Soldiers and the entire Army Family;

Whereas, in keeping with individual religious traditions, chaplains exercise their duty to invoke the grace and blessing of Almighty God to be extended to Soldiers and Families, especially in times of acute need;

Whereas the Army has directed a “stand down” and unit training during a 120-day period beginning 15 February 2009 to address Suicide Prevention and Awareness;

Whereas our Army continues to fight a persistent war on several fronts, thus stretching and stressing our forces;

Whereas the Chaplaincy, as spiritual leaders, model faith and belief in the Hand of God to intervene in the course of history and individual lives;

I therefore call the Chaplaincy to a Day of Prayer and Fasting, in keeping with your religious traditions, to be observed on 8 April 2009 that the united cry of our Corps will be heard and answered regarding the protection, preservation, and peace for our Soldiers and Families. I hereby request that you invite your military chapels and religious communities to unite and participate in this solemn occasion.

While a single day of prayer and fasting is proclaimed, I invite and encourage you to maintain a season of prayerful reflection during these challenging times. May God be glorified in the lives of our Army’s Soldiers and Families, and may God bless the United States of America.

Proclaimed this 2nd day of March, 2009, Washington, DC.

Douglas L. Carver
Chaplain (Major General) United States Army
Chief of Chaplains